Scott II-48—34.8M—28.1-28

Sep: Revenue (192 2) **Department.**

Mis SERIES

G.O. No. 408

DATED 26 9 22

P 11 E

[Despatch Abstract.]

Archaeology - Ancient monuments, Bellary district - Hampi ruins - old Temple at Kamalapur - Use as Public Works Department Resthouse p prohibited

Modified by G.O. No. 482 Dusaree (S.
B 16. 11 1922

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY GOVT. OF MADRAS

In future letters, please quote No. 310 dated 20th June 22 and short title *

Rec'd. Enclosures

Rep'd. Spare copies

Telephone
Post Box No.
Telegraphic Address

Dated 20th June 24

From (Name) Nilakanta Sastri Esq., M.A., M.O.L.
(Designation) Offg. Superintendent
(Address) Archaeological Survey, Southern Circle
Kodaqu

To The SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
FINANCE (SEPARATE REVENUE) DEPARTMENT
FORT ST. GEORGE. MADRAS.

Sir,

Conversion of an old temple into a P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow.

At Kamalapur, near Hampi, District Bellary, an ancient temple has been converted into a Public Works Department Inspection Bungalow. The spaces between the pillars have been walled up to form rooms and the carving has been covered with a thick coating of white-wash. The Sanctum Sanctorum which must have enshrined the image of the deity to whom the temple was dedicated, has been converted into a bath-room and is thus being used in a most offensive way. This I make bold to say is a manifest abuse of an archaeological Monument having no justification whatsoever. It not only goes to wound the religious susceptibilities of the people concerned but is detrimental to the interests of the Archaeological Department. I have the Honour to request, therefore, that the Local Government may be moved to take early steps to stop this abuse of the Monument forthwith & restore it to its former condition.

II. As the ruins at Hampi rank amongst the most important Archaeological Monuments of India they will undoubtedly attract many visitors not only from this country but from other countries as well. Therefore, I venture to suggest that comfortable Dak Bungalow be erected there as soon as

2

Necessity for such a bungalow was pointed out long ago (vide Mr. A.H.Longhurst's Inspection Notes on Hampi Ruins dated 20th October 1916 and G.O. thereon No.447 dated the 5th April 1917.)

III. In this connection I beg to add that the Director General of Archaeology in India has been consulted and he agrees with me fully in what I have said above.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Offg.Superintendent.

3/

Finance (S.R) Dept

Ref no 1191 From the S.A.S No 310 dt the 20th/24th June 1922

Conversion of an old temple into a P.W.D Inspection Bungalow

The S.A.S reports that an ancient temple at Kamalapur near Hampi, Bellary District has been converted into a P.W.D Inspection bungalow. This seems to have been done many years ago by a former Collector of Bellary (before the monuments at Kamalapuram were declared protected in G.O. #697 S.R 13-2-23) (1146) 5-4-17 (C) For Mr. Twining's opinion of this monument please see para 4 Page 11 of G.O 444 (XII) dt 5-4-17 (C) The S.A.S however strongly objects to the temple being used as a dwelling place and requests its restoration to its former condition. Submitted that his view may be concurred in, and that the P.W.D may be requested to take necessary action

2. As a corollary to the above proposal the S.A.S recommends the construction of a Dak bungalow at Hampi for the reasons stated in paras II & III of his letter at Pp 1-2; Submitted that this is a matter for the consideration of the P.W.D. The file may be sent up to P.W.D

ASSISTANT SECRETARY 10 JUL 1922 GOVT. OF MADRAS

For orders.

7/7/22

Finance Dp. 1191 S.R-1

10.7.1922

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 2090 Ac/7 12 JUL 1922 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

12/7/22

S

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S/7/22

IX

W.S

The S. E. this Circle may be
~~asked to submit a full report in the matter~~ report
~~in connection with the Collector of Bellary.~~
A draft memo is submitted

RY
6/8/22
Hallo
9.8.22

No full report is necessary. —

The place was used as a rest house when I was first there nearly 25 years ago, & I do not remember how long before that. —

A period of great financial stress does not seem to be the exact time for launching out into expenditure on a rest house, which is not really necessary (owing to paucity of visitors), merely on sentimental grounds. —

A first class rest house suitably furnished would probably cost about 13,000 Rs. If Finance has the money available or can guarantee it the P.W.D will submit the necessary estimate & plans

C.T.N
11/8

Finance

GR

Finance (S.R.) Defd. P. memo 20 ote. 1
14.8.22
No. 1516 SR
15-8-22

Please see P.W.D's note above.
The P.W.D. are not for constructing a new rest house which is estimated to cost about Rs 13,000/-.

2. The P.W.D. has not however stated anything as regards the S.A.S's request contained in the concluding portion of para 1 of his letter. The P.W.D. may it is submitted, be requested to state what steps they propose to take to stop the abuse of the monument and to restore it to its former condition.

C.R.
15.8.22.

S/11
18822
S

Sir I not right in saying that when the Protectors shift had effected & his establishment removed all sanctity attached to the shrine disappears & no more victim attaches to the killing there to any other sacrifice building there are hundreds of old temples all over the country in the same position their shrines open to the intrusion of man & beast. Once desecration or abandonment they remain desecrated & as far as any observation has extended their profanation is a matter of indifference. Ceremonial purification can I

6/

Rwtn

believe restore them status & fit them for the reception of the image of the deity, & local piety has I think in some cases gone to this expense. There is if I am right no question of a tottering scandal & there is no local demand for the restoration of the temple which is no longer a temple. I would therefore urge upon S.A.S. that even if the number of visitors justified it the local Govt. has no funds from which to construct a rest-house, but that if the Archaeological Dept. will do so they will gladly place the existing building at their disposal.

Lefr
10/5/22

A draft order is submitted for approval.

PR.
23.8.22.

The Secretary's view of the matter is quite correct.

Lefr
25.8.22

SLu
24.8.22
S

While I have no doubt that Mr. Moir's is the commonsense view, I am afraid that in these days we must pay attention to sentiment as well as commonsense, and though nobody is genuinely likely to object on religious grounds to the use of the building, we ~~should mind~~/expect a hue and cry if the facts come to the knowledge of ~~those~~ people who are only too anxious to find any sort of a stick with which to beat the Government. The case is analogous in a very small way to a case in the Bombay Presidency which, so far as I remember, was dealt with under the orders of H.E. Lord Curzon.

2 We certainly cannot afford to build a new bungalow at the present time and I do not suppose that the Archaeological Department can afford to do either. The only thing to be done appears to me to be to strike the existing building off ~~of~~ our list of bungalows and hand it over to the Archaeological Department with a request that they will restore it to its original state. The proposal to build a new bungalow may be noted for consideration if and when we secure a reduction of our contribution.

Please circulate to H.E. the Governor.

P.S.Y.

de SECTION
12 DEC 22
CURRENT RECORDS
2905

A revised draft order is subd for approval which may be sent to the P.W.D. for acceptance.

issued S.R. No. 524 9/9
9. 9. 1922

C.R. 2-9-22 C.R. 2-9-22 P.W.D.

6

P.W.D.

D.S.

The draft order may be accepted in the P.W.D. and the case returned to Fin (S.R.).

C.T.I
21/9

Fin. S.R.

Puno
2090 Ac-2
22.9.1922

Fin. S.R.

Subject that the draft below may now issue

S.R.99
23.9.22.

C.C.R
23-9-22

Sd
23/9/22

Scott. II-10 (a)—48,962—2-2-22. (6)

9

Finance (J.R.) DEPARTMENT.

	Date.
When received for Fair-copying.	10.V 3 21 2
When copied ..	
When examined ..	Read 26/9
When signed ..	
When despatched ..	26/9

Archaeology - Ancient monuments, Bellary Dt. Hampi ruins - old Temple at Kamalapur - Use as P.W.D. Resthouse - Prohibited.

READ AGAIN G.O. No 447 Home (Edn) dated 5-4-1917 ..... 192 . C

" " " " 69 Fin(J.R) " 15-2-1922. ..... 192 . XII

READ ALSO—

C. No. From the Southern Circle No. 510, dated 20-6- 1922.

" " " " " " " 192 .

" " " " " " " 192 .

ORDER.

Mis.

No. 408, dated 26 - 9 - 1922.

The Govt. consider that ~~though no is genuinely likely to object to th~~ the use are objections

use of the abandoned temple at Hampur as a P.W.D. resthouse, ~~on religi grounds yet there may be sentimental objections to such use of the buildin~~ Orders will therefore issue in the F removing the temple from the list of P.W.D. resthouses and handing it over to the Supt. Archaeological Survey, who will be requested to take necessar steps to restore it to its required ~~st~~

2. The Govt. regret that in the present financial stringency, it is not

10

possible to permit the construction of a new resthouse at Kamalapur at the cost of provincial funds, but the proposal will be noted for consideration when funds are available.

SM
8-9-22

To

The S. A. S. ✓

" Collector of Bellary. ✓

" P. W. D. (with extract of note)

" Finance (Budget) (")

" Director-General of Archaeology in India, Simla (with Ct.).

Secrt. II—10 (a)—86,003—21-1-18. (6)

Finance (Sep: Rev.) DEPARTMENT.

	Initials.	Date.
Received in Fair-copying Section.		
Copied ..		
Examined ..		
Signed ..		
Despatched ..		

Archaeology- Ancient Monuments- Bellary Dt. Hampi- Kamalapur- Use of an old temple as a P. W. D. Rest house.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 447 Home (Arch) dated 8 Sept. 1914. C

" " " " 67 Fin (Ex) dated 10 Oct. 1922 XII

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1191, From the S. A. S. S. C, No. 310, dated 20-6-1922.

" " " " " " 191

" " " " " " 191

ORDER.

Mis:

No. ....., dated ..... 191 .

The Govt observe that the building has not been used as a temple for a very long time and that there is no idol in it. It has been used as a rest house for ~~a very long time~~ all along without objection being taken by anybody. Further, there has been no demand for the restoration of the temple which is no longer a temple from the local residents of the place. The Govt regret that, in the present financial stringency, they have no funds from which to construct a new rest house at the place even if the number of visitors justified it. But if the Archaeological Dept. will build at their own cost a rest house at the place, Govt will have no objection to place the existing building at their disposal.

The Govt are prepared to accept the recommendation of the S. A. S. & to place the building now used as a rest house at the disposal of the Archaeological Dept provided the Dept will build a new rest house in its place & provide the funds. The question is then one of the Govt doing so even if they were convinced that the number of visitors will justify the expenditure

Sh 25.8.22

Sh 24822